

CPPC board meeting 2025-05-23

by Björn Lönn

June 13, 2024

Participants to the meeting: Athanasios Theodoridis, Oliver Thim, Pantea Dara, Es-mée Berger and Björn Lönn.

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1 Opening

The meeting was opened by Athanasios at 09.34. Björn was made secretary.

2 Agenda

- The current agenda was approved by the board.

3 Follow-up on previous meeting

- The follow-up meeting was held with Thomas regarding Department day activities to attract more PhD students (see 5(i)).

- In the meeting with Lena, CPPCs ISP survey (see 4(i)), the Canvas page with teaching related information, as well as the introduction day (see 5(ii)) were discussed.
- An answer from DS was received regarding their letter of demands, which they asked us not to publish, until they know the response from the Chalmers management.

4 Project follow-up

(i) ISP survey

Valuable feedback on the ISP survey was obtained during the meeting with Lena, some of which is summarized below:

- The unintended recording of names in the survey should be removed.
- Add "Main supervisor" and "Examiner" response options.
- Add a question regarding how many ISP meetings that one has attended.
- Clarify the question regarding "ISP setup", by separating the ISP form and ISP meeting structure into two questions.
- Remove the option to specify the director of studies.

The survey was updated and sent back to Lena for final review, after the board meeting, with the goal of sending it to PhD students, supervisors and examiners during next week (2024-05-27 to 2024-05-31).

(ii) Evaluation of the doctoral education at Chalmers

The first part of the evaluation process, to compile an internal evaluation report has been finished (deadline was May 17), and sent to MC2 for the internal review. Furthermore, Physics writing group have received the report from SEE. Meetings with both SEE and MC2 are scheduled for mid-August.

(iii) Buddy system

Pantea informed that the new PhD students received Buddies. For the next semester there is a need for more Buddies. The board will spread the word and send another recruitment survey before summer.

(iv) Other updates

Another member of FFF should be recruited before July (SEE does not have a member in place). Eventually we need to find a replacement for Pantea for 2025.

5 Updates from other meetings

(i) Follow-up meeting with Thomas Nilsson

A follow-up meeting was held with Thomas Nilsson regarding ideas for the department day. A presentation from Lena about teaching distribution and invited talks from department alumni (working in both academia and industry) were discussed.

(ii) Meeting with Lena

Lena informed about the status of the introduction day, which will not be held during spring, as only three new PhD students started since the last occasion. It was discussed if FFF could anyway arrange activities. It was later confirmed by Pantea at the present board meeting, that FFF is looking to arrange intro day activities before summer.

Thanos and Björn discussed the ISP-survey with Lena and got valuable input (see 4(i)). They also informed her about the boards suggestion for the department day: for her to have a short presentation about how the work with the teaching distribution is going, highlighting some statistics, and to invite for discussions and input.

(iii) DS General Assembly

DS had their General Assembly on May 20, where they elected a new chair and board. There is no representation from Physics on the current board. However, CPPC will try to always have someone present at the meetings to receive important information. Thanos will be in charge of this.

6 Other matters

(i) Low interest to join boards

Concerns were raised regarding the low interest from PhD colleagues in joining boards (CPPC, FFF and DS). There seem to be misconceptions about the balance between workload and compensation from the board work. The possibility to start arranging information meetings ("Fika with CPPC" or similar) was discussed, and could then be arranged during fall, but well before the GA. Format details will be discussed in the upcoming June meeting.

(ii) Summer activity

The board will have a summer activity following the June meeting.

7 Next meeting

The next meeting will be taking place on June 27 at 15.30.

8 Closing

The meeting was closed by Athanasios at 10.50.